

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. John M. Carson on 8/18/09.
3. The application has been amended as follows:

Amendments to the Specification

4. Please amend first paragraph at page 4, line 1 through second paragraph at page 5, line 7 of the specification as following:

The invention provides therefor a method according to claim 1. The apparatus of the invention is given in claim 2. The computer readable medium of the invention is given in claim 3. ~~Preferred embodiments of the invention are given in claims 3 to 5.~~

Regarding the second aspect of the invention, currently, architectures of TCP/IP protocol stacks for embedded applications are usually based on a model of stacked protocol layers. This model is derived from conventional design concepts used for high-performance processor environments. As such, it is not well suited for embedded applications which are based on processors with limited processing bandwidth and memory resources. The TCP/IP communication architecture of the present invention provides a modular and scalable concept for

the development of embedded systems with Internet connectivity. ~~The preferred embodiment of the invention is given in claim 6.~~

Regarding the third aspect of the invention, currently, configuration interfaces for embedded applications are generally developed on a per-application basis. Because developing and testing the underlying communication is a time-consuming task, it increases the development risk. The serial communication architecture of the present invention allows development times of configuration interfaces, which are significantly shortened. ~~The preferred embodiments of the invention are given in claims 7 to 11.~~

Regarding the fourth aspect of the invention, currently, management of remote systems from a central location is usually implemented with custom applications. By making use of the e-mail communication method of the present invention, the same architecture which is used for the remote data acquisition application can be used for management of the client data acquisition apparatus. The client-server nature of such architecture enables the data acquisition client application to communicate directly with the server. ~~The preferred embodiment of the invention is given in claim 12.~~

Regarding the fifth aspect of the invention, currently, configuration and management of data acquisition clients from a remote device is usually done with custom hardware, software and protocols. By making use of an embedded HTTP server (web server), the configuration and management interface for access from a remote device can be based on TCP/IP communication and be implemented with a standard HTTP client (web browser), such as Microsoft Internet Explorer. ~~The preferred embodiment of the invention is given in claim 13.~~

Regarding the sixth aspect of the invention, currently, the updating of software versions from remote locations is usually performed with proprietary bootloader protocols. By making use of the FTP protocol, the software update can be based on TCP/IP communication and be implemented with any FTP-compliant server. ~~The preferred embodiment of the invention is given in claim 14.~~

Regarding the seventh aspect of the invention, currently RS-232-to-TTL signal level conversion is either provided by the embedded system hardware, or through additional external conversion circuitry. By integrating this function in the cable connector, the total product cost and the system complexity can be reduced. ~~The preferred embodiment of the invention is given in claim 15.~~

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims (dated 6/26/2009) 1-3 are allowed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Haresh Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272-3973. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan Flynn, can be reached at (571) 272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Haresh N. Patel/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2454

8/21/09